Fund allocation for rural health care

2040. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to allocate Rs. 900 crores for the National Rural Health Mission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the action plan of the centre to improve the health care infrastructure in the rural areas in Orissa under the above project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The National Rural Health Mission was launched on 12th April 2005 over the entire country with special focus on 18 States for providing integrated comprehensive and effective primary health care to the poor vulnerable and marginalized sections of the society. The total budget estimate for the Mission, which subsumes the activities under the Family Welfare & disease control programmes, during FY 2005-06 was Rs. 6731 crores.

(c) Orissa is one of the high focus State. The first year of the mission is the preparatory phase during which the institutional mechanisms for the implementation of the Mission have been laid down.

The Departments of Health and Family Welfare have been merged for better coordination of the various initiatives. The State has set up the basic institutional framework of the Mission including the State and District Health Mission. The State has also merged the various societies under different programmes. Selection of ASHAs in every village, strengthening of public health delivery system, decentralized planning are some of the key components of the Mission.

Testing of drugs used for new-born babies

2041. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the drugs used to treat new-born babies have not been properly tested, even some drugs like morphine, thyrozine and some anti-epileptic drugs are unlicensed for use of children;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have issued any instructions to the pharmaceutical companies to test and certify all paediatric medicines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Generally, the clinical trial at various phases during the course of development of a new drug is conducted on adult patient population because of difficulty in undertaking trials on children. However, depending upon the safety profile, the paediatricians may use these drugs for treatment of various diseases and disorders in children in recommended paediatric doses, unless during the market authorization, there is any specific restriction for use of a drug in children.

As per the standard texts and medical literature, drugs like morphine, thyrozine (thyroxine) and most of anti-epileptic drugs are also being used in children.

(c) and (d) The Schedule Y to Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, which was amended in January 2005 provides that if a new drug has a potential for use in paediatric patients, paediatric safety study should be conducted. In cases where there is limited paediatric data at the time of submission of application, more data in paediatric patients would be expected after marketing authorization for use in children is granted.

Women's access to quality health care

2042. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up some action plan to improve women's access to quality health care services in the rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details of this action plan so far it relates to Orissa State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) women's access to quality